Utah State Charter School Board Meeting Minutes March 16, 2006 North & South Board Rooms Utah State Office of Education

APPROVED – April 20, 2006

Members present: Julie Adamic, Brian Allen, Barbara Killpack, David Moss, and Scott Smith

Members excused: Eric Smith and Sonia Zisumbo

Staff present: John Broberg, Marlies Burns, Gary Belliston, Jo Schmitt

Others present: Associate Superintendent Ray Timothy, Patty Murphy, Janene Bowen, Stephanie Colson,

Representatives from Spectrum Academy

Media present: Celia Baker

Call to Order

Chair David Moss called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Vice Chair Scott Smith and seconded by Member Barbara Killpack to approve the minutes of the February 16, 2006 State Charter School Board Meeting. The motion was carried unanimously.

Charter School Chair Report

Chair David Moss informed the State Charter School Board that his, Julie Adamic's, and Brian Allen's appointment to the State Charter School Board ends in May. Mr. Moss stated that Director, John Broberg has made arrangements to have those appointments extended an additional year in order to maintain the integrity of the experience of the State Charter School Board. Mr. Moss informed the State Charter School Board that he will not be reappointed another year and suggested Ms. Adamic and Mr. Allen make a decision whether or not to remain on the board another year; and to inform Mr. Broberg of their intentions.

Proposal for Charter School Approvals – SB5

Director John Broberg informed the State Charter School Board SB5 was passed in the very last day of the legislative session. This bill sets up monies for a study of charter schools, done by the executive appropriations committee; also legislative leadership has called for an audit of charter schools. Mr. Broberg stated the bill also sets a cap for charters. "The State Charter School Board may only authorize; 1) a maximum of five charter schools that will begin operation in the 2007-2008 school year; and 2) a combined maximum student capacity of 5,000 students for the charter schools authorized in accordance with Subsection 1". Mr. Broberg reminded the State Charter School Board they and the State Board of Education have approved two new charters for the 2007-2008 school year. Mr. Broberg informed the State Charter School Board there are five new charter school applications USOE is working with at the present time, and have received 23 Intent to Apply applications.

After much discussion, motion was made by Vice Chair Scott Smith and seconded by Member Barbara Killpack to freeze accepting new charter school applications, excluding the five applications already received; until the results of the study of charter schools being conducted by the executive appropriations committee and for further guidance by the legislature.

A substitute motion was made by Member Brian Allen and seconded by Vice Chair Scott Smith to accept complete, new charter school applications until March 31, 2006, 5:00 p.m. for the 2007-2008 school year. The motion was carried unanimously.

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Proposal to Set Timeline for Charter Amendments

Marlies Burns, Education Specialist, informed the State Charter School Board that the School Finance and Statistics Section at USOE has requested the Charter Schools to provide them projected enrollment for the 2006-2007 school year by May 1st and a projected enrollment for the 2007-2008 school year no later than October 1st.

Director Broberg requested the State Charter School Board to place a timeline for accepting amendments from current charter schools to increase their enrollment. Mr. Broberg stated the need of a timeline is to have accurate and firm enrollment numbers to base each school's yearly budget.

Motion was made by Vice Chair Scott Smith and seconded by Member Julie Adamic to close charter amendment requests to increase enrollment March 31, 2006 for the 2006-2007 school year. Additionally, a close for charter amendments to increase enrollment requests for September 30, 2006 for the 2007-2008 school year. The motion was carried unanimously.

Approval of RFP for Charter School Training

Director John Broberg reminded the State Charter School Board of the board rule giving the assignment to the Charter School Staff to provide training for Charter School pre-applicants. He informed the State Charter School Board that because of changes in the Dissemination Grant, it has become necessary to issue an RFP for training. Mr. Broberg stated there had been one applicant, Steve Winitzky with the Technical Assistance Project for Utah Charter Schools. Mr. Broberg informed the State Charter School Board the RFP would entail nine different training sessions and \$123,000 which would be funded by state charter school funds.

Motion was made by Member Barbara Killpack and seconded by Chair David Moss to approve the RFP training to the Technical Assistance Project for Utah Charter Schools. The motion was carried unanimously.

Ranches Academy Amendment

Director John Broberg reminded the State Charter School Board that The Ranches Academy had come to them last month with Charter School Amendments, and there had been questions raised concerning the governance of the school with an elected parent being part of that board.

After much discussion, Member David Moss suggested adding a sentence or statement to the governance of the school ..."that the final vote will be conducted by the parents themselves."

Motion was made by Vice Chair Scott Smith and seconded by Member Julie Adamic to recommend to the State Board of Education approval of the amendment to The Ranches Academy concerning governance of the school; with the caveat that the additional sentence, suggested by Chair David Moss be added stating the parents will have the final vote on the vacant board position. The motion was carried unanimously.

Spectrum Academy Amendment

Representatives from Spectrum Academy presented the amendment to their charter to increase the number of students from 150 to 210.

Motion was made by Chair David Moss and seconded by Member Barbara Killpack to recommend to the State Board of Education approval of the amendment to increase enrollment at Spectrum Academy beginning with school year 2006-2007. The motion was carried unanimously.

Report on Legislative Session

Member Julie Adamic reported to the State Charter School Board the status of the bills at the legislative session concerning WPU's, Alternative Routes to Licensure, School Uniforms, Training Funds, and Administrative Funding.

Progress on Board Rule R277-470

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Patty Murphy, Education Specialist in the School Finance and Statistics Section at USOE discussed the suggested changes in sections of the board rule pertaining to Timing of School Approval for Budget Purposes, Dates Reports are Due, Business Administrators, Meeting Attendance, Distribution of Charter School Funds, Funding, School Inspections, NCLB and Economically Disadvantaged Report. Director John Broberg inquired when the final changes would be made. Ms. Murphy replied the plan was to have these changes finalized for the next Charter School Board Meeting, April 20th, and then be presented to the State Board of Education.

Facilities and Audit Report

Gary Belliston presented to the State Charter School Board a spreadsheet outlining the status of the new charter schools and the progress of their facilities. He also presented a spreadsheet reflecting a fiscal report and a report of net assets for year ending 6/30/05 for each operating charter school.

Adjourn

Motion was made by Member Barbara Killpack to adjourn at 11:45 a.m. The motion was carried unanimously.

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